Washigton Sentinel.

JUNE 2, 1855.

O. H. P. STEN, is our authorized agent or collecting accounts due this office, and for obtaining new subscribers in Virginia.

All letters on business should be ad-

ELECTION ON MONDAY NEXT-THE MOB-NATIONAL MONUMENT-RE-TROGRESSION OF KNOW-NOTHING-

On Monday next, the people of Washington will have an important duty to perform. They will have an opportunity of rescuing the National Metropolis from the foul stains attempted to be affixed upon its fair fame, by a party calling itself "Know-nothing," since it obtained control of the municipal power within the last year.

The disgraceful scenes witnessed in front of Brown's hotel, on Saturday night last, have cast like locusts; they came like wild pigeons; they a stigma upon the character of our citizens, which can only be blotted out by an expression of their condemnation, in the most signal manner, against the propagators of it. The ballot box, on next Monday, will afford an opportunity to do this, in an effectual manner. We firmly believe, from the "signs" around us, that every citizen who values his character for respectability, no matter what his political antecedents or party preferences may heretofore have been, will now unite in deacteristics, as the one which presided over and dued tones. controlled the "mob" of Saturday night. We earnestly trust that every respectable and lawfamily, but to the character of the Nation's Metropolis, to record his condemnation of the new " Mob Know-nothing-fraternity" on the election

HENRY A. WISE, the gallant leader of the Democratic party in Virginia, during the recent election, was elected Governor of that State! He had been in Washington, at the house of his sonin-law, withdrawn from the turmoils of political strife, for some days anterior to and after the election. His wife was with him, in very delicate complimenting him with a serenade, and made lic, it was determined that the meeting should not take place where she would be disturbed, and itself: Brown's Hotel was selected. The sequel is known to the Washington public. Let us look at the enormity it developes. VIRGINIA has She gave birth to the great WASH-INGTON, called everywhere "the Father of his country!" Within the peaceful shades of Mount Vernon, on Virginia soil, his mortal remains have their resting place! WASHINGTON CITY is the offspring of his creation! He selected it as the permanent seat of our National Government! A large portion of it was ceded for that purpose by Virginia. Yet, in the face of all these solemn tempts to make a speech within the sacred precincts of this national ground, in response to a call of his fellow-citizens, he is rudely, ruthlessly prevented by a MOB, calling themselves the 'People of Washington," the "American party,

tions upon the spirit of our institutions, made by the new "secret fraternity," in connection with the So the Washington Monument! That MONUMENT was made, by charter, to belong to the whole by any particular or especial sect or party, but to the LAWS." be held sacred as an enduring memorial of the affections of the American heart, for the illustrious Parent of our glorious Republic. The first board of managers and officers of the society, created for the purpose of carrying into effect this tribute of a nation's gratitude, presents a galaxy of names worthy of being recorded. Among them we find, General Scott, General Towson, Colonel Abert, Walter Jones, P. R. Fendall, W. W. Seaton, Colonel Henderson, and other distinguished citizens, selected without party distinction. An attempt to make the erec tion of this national monument a political hobby, would have been frowned down, if it had ever been intimated, by the great parties known as Whig and Democratic. It was left for a faction of midnight growth to commit this act of sacralege-and observe the fruits it has brought forth? The busy hum of workmen-the sound of the chisel and the hammer-the hoisting of the marble slabs, the grateful offerings of the several States-are stilled, as if the blight of the deadly Upas was upon them! Under the rule of the Mob party, now attempting to control the National Monument, it will remain an eye-sore and disgrace to all who revere its name, or the object contemplated by its erection. The usurpers of the hallowed trust must be ejected by the potent voice of the People, or that national edifice will stand a huge, shapeless mass-a roost for owls and bats, and midnight thieves, to hide from jus-

It is cheering, however, to relieve ourselves from the contemplation of the evil which has recently been inflicted upon the reputation and true interests of Washington, by looking at the bright prospects which are appearing in the political horizon, within the last two months. Know-nothingism is about gasping its last breath. Its mysterious centrivances, which led many an honest man, possessing more curiosity than wisdom, into its secret caverns, have lost their alnicipal and other elections have been held, the sand potes, from similar elections held last year! Thus-in Philadelphia city they have lost and Ohio, 7,000! and in Indianapolis, Indiana, 900 will take higher ground. votes! So it is everywhere that a second trial But two parties were in the field in Virginiahas taken place.

tory she has achieved, she owes much to her gery and Federalism. manner of voting, but more to the unswerving | Where, then, was the Whig party? It had political integrity of her citizens! Secret under- either changed its name and become mingled

system should be adopted at the polls on Monday next. We have, however, little fear of the result. Know-nothingism will receive its death blow here on the blessed Monday next to come, and the character of the National Metropolis will thus be redeemed.

THE PHILADELPHIA CONVENTION. Without hope man would be a miserable wretch. Without hope the Know-nothings would be the most miserable of all wretches. Their signal disaster in Virginia cast a gloom over their countenances and filled their hearts with despondency. Their voices were hushed. They were dumb as oysters. They opened not their mouths. As they had come, so they went. They came came like sorah. They disappeared like locusts, wild pigeons, and sorah. The first frost was fatal to them. As the sorah is supposed to sink into marsh mud, so the Know-nothings are supposed to have sunk into the gutters from which

But one hope remains to them. It is that great cure for all evils a convention. The first shock of the Virginia election over, they begin to peep from their hiding places and look out upon the nouncing a party that would engender a spirit sun in the heavens. Some of them have ever among us so disgraceful, so startling in its char- been heard to speak, but in very gentle and sub-

On Monday next they hold a national conven tion in Philadelphia to make, we presume, a naabiding citizen, therefore, will deem it to be a tional platform, and to arrange for the Presidensacred duty he owes, not only to himself and tal election. From this convention they expect great things. What the convention will do, it is not for us to surmise. "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof "

The Petersburg Intelligencer, which has th credit, if credit it be, of originating the late fusion in Virginia, and which, perhaps, is the most suggestive of all the Whig journals in that State, seems to expect much from the Philadelphia convention. It advises a programme, which it thinks will be wonderfully efficacious in promoting the growth and the ascendancy of the health, and hence when his friends insisted upon new order. It threatens the Northern Knownothings with the dissolution of all the lodges in the request that he should speak to them in pub- the South unless a national platform shall be agreed upon. The Intelligencer thus expresses

"One thing we must be permitted to say in all sincerity and candor—that, inasmuch as the slavery question now rides over all others-as this been proudly recognized as the "Mother of is the only rock upon which the Union can be dashed to pieces, it will be the primary duty of the convention to declare itself in the most explicit terms upon this question. There must be no am biguity—no reservation—not a sentence or word in their platform upon which to hang They will have to choose between the constitutional, national elements in all their purity and strength, and the elements of fanatical tion, and treason, in all their rampant virulence as now displayed in the ravings of Wilson, Par Virginia. Yet, in the face of all these solemn truths, when a Governor elect of that State attempts to make a speech within the sacred prepathy for, the Abolitionists, every council at the South will be instantly disbanded, and its members, disappointed and mortified, will feel ther selves under a sacred obligation to resist at al who are hereafter determined to rule America!!!"

If the People of the United States, in their representative

respective of the United States, in their representative

against this American party, selves under a sacred obligation to resist at all points and at all hazards the influences of an Order having affiliation with such a detestable party as that which numbers amongst its leaders and incendiaries we have just named. The South will be united as one man against this American party if the Philadella. capacity, will not fail to do so.

There is another powerful stimulant to urge the citizens of Washington, who value the national against that fatly and unequivocally renounce Abolitionism in all its shapes and phases.

They must stand flatly and fearlessly up to the that henceforth the meetings and proceedings are standard to the company of the organs of that party insist that the unpopular feature is its secrecy. They recommend that secrecy shall be done away with, and that henceforth the meetings and proceedings. the citizens of Washington, who value the national reputation, to raise their voices on Monday next, in opposition to the dangerous innovation of the SLAVERY, so nomine, in a way prejudicial to most editors would be to the rights of the South. They must satisfy the South, beyond all suspicion, that they recognize those bonds between the North and her which our fathers of '88 established, in their full was made, by charter, to belong to the whole deforce—and that they will inflexibly adhere to the American People. It was not to be controlled letter and spirit of the CONSTITUTION and of

> Here is an implied admission that the Norther Know-nothings have not explicitly expressed themselves on the slavery question. Indeed more seems to be implied than this. There is the implication of a taint, that must be burnt and purged

When the sky falls, it will catch larks, and when the Northern Know-nothings promulge a suitable and an honest platform for slaveholders, then indeed will the wonder of wonders be performed. The suggestion of the Petersburg Intelligencer is unreasonable. It cannot expect such men as Mr. Burlingame and Senator Wilson to declare in favor of slavery.

An interesting question here presents itself. It what will the Know-nothing Whigs of the South, do, when they disband their councils, in onsequence of not receiving a suitable platform from their brethren of the North? Where will they go? What new disguise will they assume? What novel Whig trick will they attempt to play? They ought to be thinking seriously of these things, for they will very soon be called on to act.

WHERE IS THE OLD WHIG PARTY The Know-nothing and Whig organs, true to their policy of keeping up the deception that the Know-nothing party is not the old Whig party in disguise, appeal to the fact that many Whigs voted against the Know-nothing party. They ask-how can it be the Whig party when Whigs voted against it? It is almost absurd and ridiculous to argue the matter with them, yet to satisfy them we will make a few remarks.

Nobody denies that some old line Whigs voted with the Democrats in Virginia. We confess it, and we confess it with pride. The very pick of the Whig party co-operated with us. They were men who make love of country, and not hatred of Democracy, their rule of conduct. They were

the Democratic and Know-nothing parties. But old-glorious old Virginia, did not wait Where was the Whig party? Nobody will confor a second trial. She threw the boasting, mob tend that the Democratic party was the Whig crowd, back into their hiding places, in the first party. All agree that it was the same stern and It was eleven thousand or thereabouts. combat. In the great and highly important vic- sterling old party that has always fought Whig-

under-ground associations, that have no fixed with the new party, or the men who composed it principle to sustain them, cannot face the vive were all dead. It was impossible that nearly voce, open ticket system of voting. When a man half the adult population of Virginia could die who values his political antecedents, is brought to in a few short months. So it is demonstrable by "face the music" in this way, his heart fails, a syllogism that the Know-nothings must of neand his tongue palsies upon being required to de-clare publicly whether his spleen or his principle they included all the Whigs. We only mean governs his vote! It would tell a tale, if this that they comprehended the bulk and body of

If the Know-nothing party is not the Whig party in disguise, where is the Whig party?

AMERICANS AT THE FRENCH EXHI-

BITION. At the opening of the great exhibition in Paris. the Americans were treated with great courtesy Each one was furnished with twenty ladies' tickets, being a greater number, it is said, than were distributed among the English. Reporters for the Democratic Rejoicings over the Virginia tickets, as were the representatives from the press of all other countries. The American flag was displayed from several conspicuous portions of the building, and there were four streamers, bearing the words New York, Philadelphia, Boston, and Baltimore. The United States were repre sented by the following gentlemen:

Mr. Mason, our minister, and his family; the embers of the Legation and their ladies; Mr. McLane, Minister to China.

Colonel Delafield, Captain McClelland, and Major Mordecai, of the United States Army, on their way to the Crimea; General Thomas, Uni-

ted States Army. Mr. Belmont, Minister at Hague; Ex-Preside Van Buren; Major Cass, Minister at Rome; Mr. McRae, United States Consul at Paris; and by the following Commissioners from the United

Maunsell B. Field, Chas. L. Fleischman, Alexander Vattemare, and S. H. Wales, for the State of New York; James Swain, A. W. Little, and Mr. Pepper, of Pennsylvania; Dr. W. E. Johnson, for Ohio; W. J. Valentine, for Massachusetts; D. C. Gilman, for Connecticut; Marshall Woods and Edward Williams, for Rhode Island; E. B. Buchanan, Consul at La Rochelle, for Maryland; R. E. Cox, for Alabama; Dr. William Rabe, for California; H. M. Morfit, of Washington, for Illinois; and A. G. Powers, for Louisiana Mr. Fleischman acts for New York, Virginia, and South Carolina.

The Paris correspondent of the New York Ex-

It may here be mentioned that the name o France occurs twenty-two times in the grand building, England ten times, the United States five, Belgium three, Austria four, and Russia, Saxony, Hanover, Wurtemberg, and Bavaria, each once. These names are placed over the arches, and being equal in extent, indicate the amount of surface allotted to the respective nations mentioned.

The number of exhibitors in this exhibition i about twenty thousand-of which nine thousand five hundred are French and ten thousand five hundred foreign. The number of exhibitors from the United States, registered at this moment, is about one hundred and ten. But a small proportion of the articles have arrived, and some o these are very seriously damaged. No fair estimate can yet be made to what extent the American department will be filled, but hopes are entertained that it will not be necessary to cede back any more of the space now placed at the disposal of the American Commmissioners.

A QUESTION FOR DEMOCRATIC

Since the Know-nothing defeat in Virginia, nany of the organs of that party insist that the

is the most odious, would be hard to determine whether its secrecy, its religious intolerance, its proscription of foreigners, or its reckless disregard of all those vital principles that have constituted the creeds of parties.

We do not think that any remedy can resuscitate Know-nothingism. It is past the help of the island, &c., &c. We do not think that any remedy can resusci medicine. All the efforts of its doctors to infuse into it vigor and spirit will be unvailing. Every change made in it will be a change for the worse. Its secrecy has, perhaps, been its most efficent prop. Should that be abolished, it will then lose its chief charm for the multitude

Its rules will doubtless be modified to suit ec

casions as they arise. These changes will go on until at last it will in all likelihood fall back into into ancient whiggery. Should this occur, it will be interesting to inquire into the future whereabouts of such Democrats as have joined the Know-nothings, and shall cling to them until that not distant day, when their "elements shall melt with fervent heat," and their dissolution shall take place. The Democratic party, which they deserted in a crisis will not want them in the hour of victory. They will not want them at all. They are happy to be rid of them. Where will these men go?

POSTAGE TO TURK'S ISLAND.

We are requested to state that the Post Office at Turk's Island being under the control of the Colonial Authorities, there is no officer there to collect, on behalf of the British Post Office Department, the postage chargeable upon letters from the United States conveyed to that island by British packets.

Unless, therefore, the British postage of 24 cents per half ounce, on letters for Turk's Island, n addition to the United States postage of 10 or 20 cents, according to distance, is prepaid in the United States, the same as upon letters for for eign places (not British) in the West Indies, they cannot be forwarded to their destination.

The National Intelligencer, of the 7th of May, contained what purported to be "An Address of the Board of Managers of the Washington National Monument Society to the people of dom, into its secret caverns, have lost their allurements. The mask of its profligate LEADERS has been pulled off, and the reaction, leading to their political extermination, more than exceeds the mush-room growth which brought the mobbish creature into life. The recent elections in several States, where the Know-nothing party several States, where the Know-nothing party is character. We say that the Know-nothing of foreigners, religious intolerance, and midnight secrecy. They with the names of the individuals who, as that journal had before informed its readers, were elected officers and managers of the society on the 22d of February last, by what it gently described as a "coup de main" of one of the "two bodies of men [who] claim to be the board of geant of the Emperor arrived, surrounded by his ton National Monument Society to the people of the United States." The publication was signed arranged and in their places, 20,000 boxes and spring into existence and had triumphed a year before, show as plain as day that it cannot stand the scrutiny of a second contest. In four of the principal cities of Pennsylvania, where municipal and other elections have been held, the well as Whigs. But since the election, its between us and the claim to be the board of managers of this society." This address had managers of this society." This address had managers of this society." This address had managers of the managers of the society. This address had previously appeared in the American Organ, except that the passage "all causes of difference on the discourse of the society." This address had previously appeared in the American Organ, except that the passage "all causes of difference of the discourse of the society." This address had previously appeared in the American Organ, except that the passage "all causes of difference of the temperor arrived, and the coup discourse of the whole anair had been conducted. The party was a Whig party—the Whig party in disguise. It boasted that it previously appeared in the American Organ, except that the passage "all causes of difference or the most striking features of the whole anair had been conducted. The party was a Whig party—the Whig party—the Whig party in disguise. It boasted that it previously appeared in the American Organ, except that the passage "all causes of difference organ, except that the passage "all causes of difference organ, except that the passage "all causes of difference organ, except that the passage "all causes of difference organ, except that the passage "all causes of difference organ, except that the passage "all causes of difference organ, except that the passage "all causes of difference organ, except that the passage "all causes of difference organ, except that the passage "all causes of difference organ, except that the passage "all causes of difference organ, except that the passage "all causes of difference organ, except that the passage "all causes of difference organ, except that t well as Whigs. But since the election, its between us and the old board have, as we hope, "Mob party" has lost upwards of thirteen thou- highest authority, the central organ in this city, been removed," contained in the American Oravers that such Democrats as belonged to it in- gan, was omitted in the Intelligencer. Now, the continently renounced, abandoned, and forsook other of the "two bodies of men" has also made we have gained upwards of 9,000! in Lancaster, it before the election. If the Democrats quit it, an address to the public; and of that other of the more than 800! in Pittsburg, 2,000! in Allegany of course it ioniows that those left were wrigs.

City, 1,700!! in Wilmington, Delaware, they But this is a form of special pleading on which Intelligencer has been a member for more than day fell very far short of realizing the anticipations that had been formed of it. The Patrie, in more than 800! in Pittsburg, 2,000! in Allegany of course it follows that those left were Whigs. "two bodies," one of the editors of the National have lost, since last year, 350! in Cincinnati, we do not feel disposed to rest the case. We twenty years. Why has not the address of the other of the "two bodies," &c., appeared in the National Intelligencer? Can any body tell?

> Mr. Wise's calculation of his probable majority turns out to be astonishingly correct.

ANOTHER PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE. - The Trenton (N. J.) Free Press is out in favor of Hon. John M. Botts, of Virginia, for the Presi-

From the Richmond Enquirer.

The Congressional Contest. The Democrats have carried every District in the State—all the late members having been reelected. Returns yesterday leave no doubt of the triumphant re-election of Mr. Lewis, about whose success some doubt was previously enter-

There is no longer any doubt of the election of A. R. Holladay, esq., as a Commissioner of Public Works, from the Central District. His majority is very decided.

ELECTION OF MR. HOLLADAY

THE LEGISLATURE.

The next Legislature will be Democratic by pwards of 40 majority.

The triumph is complete and glorious in all re-Mr. Wise's majority will be about eleven thou

New York, May 31.—There is an immense gathering at Tammany Hall this evening in honor of the result of the election in Virginia. One hundred guas are being fired in the Park. The hall is illuminated and speeches, fireworks, &c., are adding to the enthusiasm. The hall is excessively consided.

PHILADELPHIA, May 31.—The Democrats her PHILADELPHIA, May 31.—The Democrats here fired 100 guns this afternoon, in honor of the Virginia election, and a tremendous meeting is being held this evening in Independence square, at which the Hon. John Rolins presides. Processions from every ward of the city, with music and transparencies, marched to the place of meeting. There are speeches being made from two stands at opposite ends of the square, by Messrs. Florence, Rolins, Cadwalader, Tyler, Carrigan, Witte and others.

The Queen's Presentation of the Crimen Medal.

The scene in St. James' Park, London, on the occasion of Queen Victoria's presentation, in per-son, of the Crimean medal, to about 600 soldiers cribed as a pleasing but affecting sight. A letter

says:

It was really touching to see the men trying to look as soldier like as possible, yet hobbling and shuffling along, sone pale with long suffering, others decrepid from severe wounds. The Queen sat beneath a magnificent pavilion, above which waved the Royal Standard of England, on a large square dais, richly carpeted. In front of the pavilion was an elaborate and brilliant brass railing, which shone gayly in the sunlight, and it was over this Her Majesty leaned as she presented the decoration to the proud, gratified, brave fellows, who, with glittering eyes, regarded the bright medal and parti-colored ribbon, as they received it from Her Majesty, as a pearl beyond price.

A large body of very young soldiers were pre-

A large body of very young soldiers were pre-sent, and it was impossible not to notice the effect that this distribution had upon them, creating a spirit of emulation, and arousing an eager desire to dare the same dangers which had won these gallant fellows the proud distinction received di-rect from the hands of the Queen. There was an immense concourse of persons assembled, and immense concourse of persons assembled, and many a wet eye looked upon the spectacle of a tender woman, high and distinguished as her position is, leaning over the stalwart soldier wounded in defence of the honor of his country, and placing with fair and delicate hands the reward of his brayers and sefficient was his of his bravery and suffering upon his breast. There were divisions of troops present who defiled past her majesty in slow and quick time. The distribution occupied nearly two hours. With her usual good fortune, the Queen secured a fine day.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

NAVY DEPARTMENT. of the San Jacinto, Comm Cauly.—Departure of the Jamestown for the coast of Africa.—We understand that Commodore McCauley, after giving the necessary instructions for the proper disposition of the several vessels of the home squadren, has been ordered to proceed in the San Jacinto to New York, when Captain Paulding will assume the command of the squad-ron. We understand, also, that the San Jacinto

will return again to this squadron, to which will be added a first-class frigate. The Jamestown, the flag-ship of the African squadron, which was temporarily attached to Commodore McCauley's squadron, has been ordered to proceed to her destination.

Proclamation of the Captain-General of Cuba.— The Siege and Blockade Removed.—We translate the following from the official journal at Havana.

Government, captain-generalcy, delegated su-perintendency of the treasury of the ever-faithful Island of Cuba. OFFICE OF THE MILITARY SECRETARY.

Official.

Don Jose Gutierrez de la Concha, governo

The measures adopted for the defense and s curity of the island, and the decided disposition of its inhabitants to sustain its nationality, have already rendered impossible the attempts of those who were preparing a piratical expedition against this territory and an internal rebellion, which might give it a character different from that which it really had. The public tranquillity, then, being guarantied

by the increased moral and material strengt which the government has derived from th roofs of loyalty and patriotism given by the inabitants of the island under these circus the time has arrived for completely re-establish ng public confidence by the exercise of ordinary gislation.
I have, therefore determined to dec

Art. 1. The state of siege throughout the ter ritory of the Island of Cuba, its adjacent isles and keys, and likewise the blockade of the coasts and cent waters, decreed in my proclamation of the 12th of February of this year, is removed.

JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

HAVANA, May 23, 1855.

A second decree dissolves the military commission instituted by proclamation of February 13, 1855, for the purpose of trying persons ac-cused of consipracy, treason, and rebellion against the State, arson, and highway robbery; and directs the removal of cases pending before that commission to the ordinary tribunals having mission instituted by proclamation of February

Another decree repeals a proclamation of Feb ruary 9, 1855, respecting annual licenses for transit, empowers the helders of such lisenses to se them, and authorizes the issue of them to applicants .- [Union of yesterday.

The French Exhibition. The Paris correspondent of the New York

The Paris correspondent of the New York Commercial Advertiser gives rather a chilling account of the inauguration of the great French Exhibition. He says:

"The inauguration of the Exhibition took place on the 15th, the appointed day. Neither the ceremonial of the occasion, nor the appearance of the building, nor the value and workmanship of the products, can be for one moment compared to the World's Fair in Hyde Park. The weather was dull and very raw, with threatening rain; only one quarter of the articles were of the ceremony. His rajesty was coldly re-ceived, and not a single-shout marked the conclusion of his speech. He and the Empress walked several times through the edifice, by pas-sages fenced in from the crowd, and excited the usual curiosity, but very few acclamations. It must certainly be allowed that this long-expected speaking of the Palace and its centents, begins by abjuring its readers to forget the London Exhibition, if they can, for a comparison of the two would mortify their national pride. The stock fell the day after one and a quarter per cent."

"I ought to have said, while the English em bassy had as many tickets of admission as it asked for, and while Prince Napoleon gave 4,000 with his own hand, the American "The exhibition was thinly attended yester

day, but is doing better to-day.

To the Members of the Washington Na-

WASHINGTON NATIONAL MONUMENT

It has become the duty of the Board of Managers to inform you of the causes which disturb the discharge of the trust confided to them.

This society was established in the city of Washington in the year 1833, for the purpose, as stated in its constitution, of erecting "a great National Monument to the memory of Washington at the seat of the Federal Government." For this object, the managers and their successors, chosen under that constitution, solicited and obtained funds from individuals, associations, and public bodies in every part of the Union, without distinction of party, or of creed; accepted offered contributions from Indian tribes, and blocks of marble, with suitable inscriptions, from countries contributions from Indian tribes, and blocks of marble, with suitable inscriptions, from countries in the Old World; and obtained from Congress authority to build the monument on land belonging to the nation, at its metropolis. Their labors have been so far successful that, there, on the fourth of July, 1848, in the presence of the representatives of the people and the States, and of an assembled multitude, the corner stone of the Monument was laid. The work, thus auspiciously commenced, has been diligently prosecuted; and at the close of the last season, the collections had amounted to two hundred and collections had amounted to two hundred and thirty thousand dollars, and the shaft of the monuthirty thousand dollars, and the shaft of the monument had reached the height of one hundred and
seventy feet. During the past summer the managers felt it to be their duty to invoke the attention of Congress to the history and prospects of
this pious work. Their memorial was referred
by the House of Represantatives to a select committee, of which the Hon. Henry May, of Maryland, was chairman. This committee, after a
careful examination of the subject, made a report on the 22d of February last, emphatically
approving the conduct of the managers, and recommending "that the sum of two hundred
thousand dollars should be subscribed by Congress on behalf of the people of the United States
to aid the funds of the society." The recommendation was understood to have been acceptable to
the House; but action on it was interrupted by a
plot secretly contrived, and suddenly disclosed,
to reverse the principles on which the society to reverse the principles on which the society had uniformly acted, and to degrade an enter had uniformly acted, and to degrade an enterprise, sacred to patriotism and humanity, into an instrument of party or sect. On the very day on which the select committee made their auspicious recommendation to the House of Representatives, a crowd of persons assembled at the City Hall, and there voted for seventeen individuals, named in a printed ticket, to be officers and managers of this society. The only previous announcement of this proceeding, was a notice signed "F. W. Eckloff, Clerk, W. N. M. Seciety," and published on the evening of the 21st of February, in the American Organ and the Evening Star, and on the morning of the 22d in the National Intelligencer. On the 24th of February, in the last named paper, the result of the election was proclaimed in the following publication:

WASHINGTON N. M. OFFICE,

The Washington National Monument Society met, according to the constitution of said society and to notices published in the newspapers of this city, at their office, on the 22d of February, 1855, to elect the officers of said society, and to choose thirteen members, who, with the officers, constituted thirteen members, who, with the officers, consti-tute a board of managers. After being organized, the society repaired to the council chamber and proceeded to ballot, Messrs. F. A. Tucker, D. A. Gardner, Charles Myers, Jackson Edmundsen, John D. Thompson, and John P. White, acting as tellers, who announced the following as the

BOARD OF MANAGERS Samuel S. Briggs.....

 Joseph H. Bradley
 755

 J. N. Craig
 755

 Thomas D. Sandy
 755

This pretended election of managers of the Washington National Monument Society was not made according to the constitution, and was without the excuse of any notice authorized by the board of managers. The constitutional time of election is every third year from the year of 1835. The years, therefore, for holding elections, "ac-cording to the constitution," are 1838, 1841, 1844, 1847, 1859, 1853, and 1856. The pretense for holding an election in 1855, is that the last election was held in 1849; that the existing board of managers was then elected; and that, dating from that election, the year 1855 is a triennial period. Surely, an unconstitutional election in 1855 is not made constitutional by the fact that years before. But the title and authority of this board are derived, not from the election of 1849, but from elections and appointments long prior thereto; and, in fact, from direct grant in the constitution itself, independent of all elections by the members of the society, even had there been no regular and valid elections by them since the adoption of the constitution. Not only has the absolute validity of their title and authority

been recognised by the society throughout a long series of years, and by the Government of the United States, but it is unequivocally admitted by the official acts and declarations of the very arties who are new intruding themselves int the seats of this board, under color of the spurious and void election perpetrated on the 22d of February last. The notices preceding and following the pretended election of February 22, 1855, were given without the authority or knowledge of this board. The secretary of the society was the officer whose province it would be a server as the officer whose province it would have been to sign or publish any such notices. The individual who did sign and publish them was the clerk of who did sign and publish them was the clerk of the board of managers; his duties were those of a recorder and messenger; he had no color of authority to sign or publish any such notices; and he had not, in any manner whatever, communicated to the board his purpose of issuing them. Its regular meetings were on Tuesday of every week; the last meeting prior to the pretended election had been held on Tuesday, the 20th of February; and the board then adjourned to meet again on Tuesday, the 27th of that month. In consequence of the proceedings of the 22d, a special meeting was called for the 24th. On the reading, according to usage, of the journal of the last previous meeting, it was found to contain a minute importing that the board had authorized the holding of an election on the 22d. This false entry was by its order expunged. According to the published report of the pretended election, the whole number of votes cast was 755, of which all were given to each of the seventeen persons elected, except one, who received teen persons elected, except one, who received 754 votes; and not one of the persons elected was a member of the existing board. This election was carried on certificates of member one dollar for each) issued without the authority or knowledge of this board; and it is now beyond the power of the board to ascertain by whom they were respectively issued; or what money, if any, was paid for them. But it is certain that

no payment on this account has reached the hands of the Treasurer of this Society—the officer who ought to have received it. The unanimity of the votes of the pretended election on the 22d of February last; the new certificates of membership which carried that elec-tion; the total exclusion from the future manage-ment of the society of those who had heretofore ment of the society of those who had heretofore conducted its affairs; the substitution of persons, but few, if any, of whom had been known as its friends; the suddenness and precision of the movement; the concealment of the purpose up to the moment of its execution; all manifested that the election was the result of an extensive and secret. combination between persons not members of the Washington National Monument Society. There s conclusive evidence that the plan of the elee is conclusive evidence that the plan of the elec-tion was "silently, yet solemnly resolved" and framed in the secret lodges of a sect styling itself at one time the "Know-nothing" party, at ano-ther the "American" party; and that its object was to transfer the entire and exclusive manage-ty the management into its own hands and to tion was "silently, yet solemnly resolved" and framed in the secret lodges of a sect styling itself at one time the "Know-nothing" party, at another the "American" party; and that its object was to transfer the entire and exclusive management of the monument into its own hands, and to oust every other description of citizens from all participation in the trust. Of such a revolution in the principles and conduct of the society this board could not consent to the instruments or the

agents, as they would have made themselves by a of a combination outside of the society to obtain.

On the morning of the 24th of February, sev-On the morning of the 24th of February, several members of this board repaired to their office, in advance of a special meeting of the board, which had been called, and was to be held at moon. The Clerk exhibited to them a letter which had been addressed to him by Vespasian Ellis, esq., claiming to have been elected first vice president of the society, in which letter the clerk was warned not to allow any use or inspection of the books and papers of the effice without an order from the writer, or those whom he represented. The pretensions of the letter were also urged by several persons who came in, claiming to be the officers and managers under the proceedings of the 22d. The constitutional managers present, disregarding these interruptions, examined to some extent the books and papers in the office; but during the examination others of the pretended board enterted the office and at the office; but during the examination others of the pretended board entered the office, and at the pretended board entered the office, and at length the claimants under the movement of the 22d organized themselves into a board, and adopted a resolution requesting all present who did not belong to it to leave the room. The constitutional managers present disregarded this intimation, as they also did several quite intelligible predictions of attempts at violence from without, which the pretended managers would be unable to prevent or control. At length, the pretended board being still present, this board proceeded to business. After correcting the journal, as before stated, they appointed a committee, consisting of General Jones, Mr. Fendall., Col. Force, Mr. Lenox, and Mr. Smith, to investigate the existing state and Mr. SMITH, to investigate the existing state of things and report thereon at the next regular meeting. This committee, after a careful son-sideration of the subject, made, on the 27th of February, a report, closing with the two follow-

1. That the election held on the 22d day of February, 1855, was held one year before the time when an election for officers can lawfully be held under the second article of the Constitution,

void.

2. That the officers and managers in office on the day of the pretended election, on the 22d day of February, 1855, are still in office, as helding over in virtue of previous elections and of the requirement in the Constitution, that vacancies occurring in the board of managers shall be filled by the board until the next regular election; and that the same are the constitutional and lawful officers and board of managers of the Washington National Monument Society.

tional Monument Society.

The board unanimously adopted the report of the committee, and also the following resolu-

1. Resolved, That the election held on the 22d instant, of officers and managers of the Washington National Monument Society, was in direct violation of the Constitution of the said society, and therefore null and void. 2. Resolved, also, That this board, being by

virtue of the constitution of the Washington Na-tional Monument Society the existing board of managers, and as such charged with a trust of the most solemn character in behalf of the American people, cannot voluntarily surrender the same.

3. Resolved, further, That the above resolution 3. Resolved, further, That the above resolutions be communicated to the gentlemen claiming under the election of the 22d inst., and that we propose that an amicable suit be instituted for the purpose of testing the rights of the two parties. These resolutions, accompanied by a letter from the secretary, were according communicated to the pretended board. The letter is as follows: OFFICE OF THE WASHINGTON NATIONAL MONU-MENT SOCIETY, Washington, Feb. 27, 1855.

MENT SOCIETY, Washington, Feb. 27, 1855.

Mr. Vespasian Ellis, and others.

Gentlemen: I am instructed by the board of managers of the Washington National Monument Society to transmit to you the accompanying resolutions. They set forth the conclusions of the board of managers, after the most mature deliberation, upon the subject in question; and they are offered in a spirit of conciliation and harmony.

harmony.

If the third resolution shall meet your approba tion, I am requested to suggest that a com should be appointed on your part to consummate the agreement and arrange the necessary details.

An answer at your earliest convenience is respectfully requested. Respectfully yours,

John Carroll Brent,

Secretary W. N. M. S.

To the foregoing communication the following answer was given:

answer was given:
Office of the Washington National Monu MENT Society, Washington, Feb. 27, 1855. JOHN CARROLL BRENT, Esq.,

Washington, D. C.
Dean Sin: In accordance with the instructions contained therein, I herewith transmit to you a copy of resolutions this day adopted by th of managers of the Washington National Monu-

ment Society.

The committee appointed under the third resolution consists of Messrs. J. H. Bradley, V. Ellis, and J. N. Craig. If it is desired that this committee confer with the members of the late board, you will please notify me when and where such an interview can be had. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. C. TUCKER,
Secretary W. N. M. S.

Resolved, That this board do not admit the right of the gentlemen constituting the late board of managers of this society to interfere at all in the affairs or administration of this society other than as members thereof.

Resolved, That we, in the prosecution of the great designs of the society, desire to discharge our duties so that there shall be ne ground left for any want of harmony between our prede-cessors and ourselves, and that we will do all we can consistently with our duty to the society, and to the country, to promote that harmony.

Resolved, That with this view a committee of three members of this board be appointed to con-fer with those gentlemen in response to the reso-lutions received from them to-day, and that they report to the next meeting of this board.

Resolved, That the secretary communicate a copy of these resolutions to John Carroll Brent, esq., from whom the resolutions of the late board were received.

This board regarded this response as conveying This board regarded this response as conveying, though in terms somewhat equivocal, a substantial rejection of their proposal to submit the matter in controversy to judicial decision. They nevertheless accepted the overture, hesitatingly made, for a conference, and appointed a committee, consisting of General Jones, Colonel Force, and Mr. Lenox, to meet the committee of the pretended board. The two committees accordingly met together on the 3d of March, but without being able to agree on any terms of arrangement; the committee of the pretended board adhering to the refusal to submit the conboard adhering to the refusal to submit the con-troversy to judicial decision. On the 7th of March, Mr. William Dougherty, the superinten-dent in charge of the monument, received a let-ter from a committee of the intrusive board, re-quiring him to forbear calling on the watchman for collections made by him at the monument; which letter the superintendent promptly an-swered, denying the authority under which it was written. On the 8th of March, in the ab-sence of the superintendent, they obtained from sence of the superintendent, they obtained from George Hilton, the day watch, the keys of sundry buildings on the monument grounds, including the office of the superintendent. On the 9th of March the superintendent received a communica-tion from them, to the effect that they had removed him from office, and appointed Mr. Samuel Briggs, one of their number, in his place. Disregarding this notice, the superintendent con-tinued to exercise his authority. He received from Hilton a key with which he unlocked the from Hilton a key with which he unlocked the doors of several of the buildings. He then locked and nailed up the doors of the buildings. Afterwards, on the same evening, the doors were broken open, including the door of the office of Barrow Frere, the night watch, the key of which had not been out of Mr. Frere's possession, and other locks were placed on the doors. On the 10th of March, the superintendent, in pursuance of an order from this board, advertised for sale two horses belonging to the society. A new sale two horses belonging to the society. A new opportunity was thus afforded for bringing to the test of a judicial decision the conflicting claims of the parties; but the intrusive board, firm in the purpose of evading such a test, contented themselves with applying to the auctioneer for the proceeds of the sale. The auctioneer paid them over to the constitutional treasurer of the society.

On the morning of the following Monday (March 12th) the superintendent, accompanied by Mr. Frere, the night watch, and by no one else, proceeded to his office on the monument grounds. He found it occupied by his pretended successor,

for party ends, possession of the monument and control of its affairs; that the secret association which planned this revolution, though boasting that their power is permanent as well as irresisti-ble, yet refused to wait for the time when the revolution could be effected "according to the Constitution," but hastened to their object in violation of that Constitution; that having with the connivance, at least, of the clerk of the board of tion of that Constitution; that having, with the connivance, at least, of the clerk of the board of managers, made an election which was void on fits face, they at once, with only this mockery of right, arrogated to themselves a title beyond dispute, and denied to this board the right of even inspecting the books and papers which were the result of their own labors; that this board, though satisfied, on careful inquiry, that the election of the 22d of February was a nullity, and that they themselves were the constitutional managers of the society, yet repressing their just indignation, and anxious that the sacred trust in their charge should not become a subject of strife, proposed an amicable suit for obtaining a judicial decision on the conflicting claims; that the adversary party rejected this reasonable offer, thus refusing in a country of laws, that the law should determine the controversy; that, by the aid of another faithless subordinate in the service of this board, they obtained the keys of buildings on the monument grounds; that after the doors had been locked by the superintendent, they got possession of the buildings by breaking open the locks; and that this possession is still maintained. This board would certainly not question it, if considerations merely personal could be a rule for their conduct. From a trust which has been long, toilsome, gratuitous, and often inconvenient, they are willing to be relieved. But they are not willing to desert it. The acceptance of that trust was a pledge on their part to be faithful to it; and this pledge would be broken by a voluntary surrender of their authority to persons whom they believe to be usurpers. Few imaginable circumstances could justify such a submission. In the present case it would be left without excuse by the proclaimed hostility of the usurpers to the principles on which the trust was created and has hitherto been administered. The rejection of the proposal for an amicable suit obliged this board to seek other means for obtaining a judicial dec

Published by order of the board:

JOHN CARROLL BRENT, Secretary List of Managers of the Washington Nationa

List of Managers of the Washington National Monument Society.

Franklin Pierce, President of the United States, ex officio President of the society.

Archibald Henderson, First Vice President.

John T. Towers, Mayor of Washington, ex officio Second Vice President.

Thomas Carbery, Third Vice President.

J. B. H. Smith, Treasurer.

John Carroll Brent, Secretary.

Peter Force, William W. Seaton, William A. Bradley, Philip R. Fendly, William

A. BRADLEY, PHILIP R. FENDALL, WINFIELD SCOTT, WALTER JONES, WALTER LENOX, THOS. BLAGDEN, MATTHEW F. MAURY, BENJAMIN OGLE TAYLOE, THOMAS H. CRAWFORD, WILLIAM W. CORCORAN, ELISHA WHITTLESEY, General Agent.

*In place of John W. Maury. deceased,
Mayor, &c., and ex officio &c.
† In place of Samuel Harrison Smith, deceased.
‡ In place of George Watterston, deceased.

APPENDIX.

The second article of the constitution is in the ollowing words;
"The society shall consist of all adult male contributors. The officers of the society shall contributors. The officers of the society shall be a president, who may be selected from the United States, without regard to residence, three vice presidents, a treasurer, and secretary, who, with thirteen members to be chosen as hereinafter mentioned, shall constitute a board of managers, all of whom shall be residents of the District of Columbia, and who, with the president, shall be triennially elected by ballet by the members of the society present at its anniversary meeting on the 22d day of February, 1835, and on the same day in every third year thereafter. The existing

day in every third year thereafter. The existing officers shall hold their places until the 22d day of February, 1835; and all officers shall continue in office until others shall be elected. All

vacancies that may occur in the board of managers shall be supplied by the board until the next ensuing triennial election."

The fourth article is as follows:

"The society shall meet on the 22d of Febru-

By subsequent amendments of the constitution, the President of the United States became ex officio president of the society; and a manager neglecting for six months, except under given circumstances, to attend the meetings of the board, was to be considered as having vacated

DEED FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED

STATES. James K. Polk, President of the United States, to the Washington National Monument Society
—Recorded 22d February, 1849, in Liber J. A.
S., No. 2, felio 12.

To all to whom these presents shall come greeting: Whereas a certain Joint Resolution of the two Houses of Congress of the United States, with the following title, to wit: "Joint Resolution subtoring the states," authorizing the erection on the public grounds in the city of Washington, of a monument to George Washington," and in the following words, to wit:

"Resolved, by the Sanate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Washington National Monument Society, be, and it is hereby authorized to erect the proposed monument to the memory of George Washington, upon such portion of the public grounds or reservations within the city of Washington not otherwise occupied, as shall be selected by the President of the United States and the board of managers of said society, as a suitable site on which to erect the said monument, and for the necessary protection thereof," was on the thirty-first day of January, in the year eighteen hundred and forty-eight, approved by James K. Polk, President of the said United States, in the words and figures following, to wit: "Approved January 31st, 1848, James K. Polk," and whereas, also, under the authority and in pursuance of the aforesaid joint resolution, on the second day of February, in the year aforesaid, the said James K. Polk, President of the United States, and a majority of the board of managers; the whole board consisting of Winfield Scott, Nathan Towson, John J. Abert, James Kearney, Walter Jones, Thomas Carbery, Peter Force, William A. Bradley, Philip R. Fendall, Thomas Munroe, Walter Lenox, Matthew F. Maury, and Thomas Blagden, being the board of managers of the said Washington National Monument Society, did select from and among the public grounds and reservations in the said city of Washington not otherwise occupied, reservation numbered three (3) as laid down and distinguished on the plot or plan of the said city of Washington, as a suitable site on which to erect the said monument, and for the necessary protection thereef: Now know ye, that the said city of Washington National Monument Society, is hereby, and by virtue of the aforesaid joint resolution, authorized to erect a monument, to the memory of Gronge Washington, and for the necessary protection thereof, on the aforesaid reservation numbered three (3) as laid down and distinguished on the plan or plot of the said city of Washington, and to see the said control of the said city of Washington, and to see the said control of the said city of Washington, and to see the said control of the said city of Washington of the plan or plot of the said city of Washington of the plan or plot States and the board of managers of said society, as a suitable site on which to erect the said monuon the aforesaid reservation numbered three (3) as laid down and distinguished on the plan or plot of the said city of Washington, and to use, possess and enjoy, quietly and peaceably, and free from all let or hindrance, the aforesaid reservafrom all let or hindrance, the aforesaid reserva-tion numbered three (3) as laid down and distin-guished as aforesaid, for the purposes aforesaid, and according to the true intent and meaning of the aforesaid joint resolution.

In testimony of all which, the said James K.
Polk, President of the United States of America, has hereto set his hand and the seal of the said

United States; and in testimony of the selection as aforesaid of the said reservation number three as aforesaid of the said reservation number three (3) for the purpose aforesaid, the said Winfield Scotf, Nathan Towson, John J. Abert, James Kearney, Walter Jones, Thomas Carbery, Peter Force, William A. Bradley, Philip R. Fendall, Thomas Munroe, Walter Lenox, Matthew F. Maury and Thomas Blagden, managers as aforesaid of the said Washington National Monument Society, have hereto set their respective hands and seals at the aforesaid city of Washington, on this twelfth day of April in the year eighteen hundred and forty-eight.

[Seal of U. S.]

JAMES K. POLK.

In presence of—(A.) Winfield Scott, Yathan Towson, Thos. Blagden, Wm. Brent, 1st V. P.

(A) Nore.-The above named officers and managers subscribed their names, not as witnesses to the President's signature, but as parties referred to in the body of the deed.